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# I AM BATMAN



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WHAT DOES IT MEAN  
TO BE HEROIC?

BEING HEROIC MEANS  
ALWAYS PROTECTING  
THE TRUTH.

SPECIAL  
PEOPLE HAVE  
THE MORAL  
AUTHORITY TO  
PROTECT THE  
TRUTH.

THE TRUTH IS: MASKS,  
THE MAGISTRATE, THE  
POLICE, THE GOVERNMENT...  
THEY ARE OPPRESSORS.

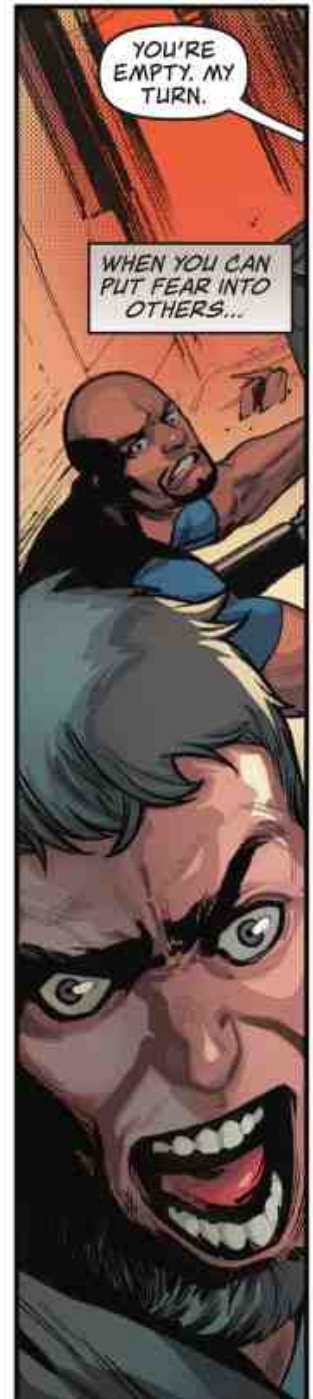
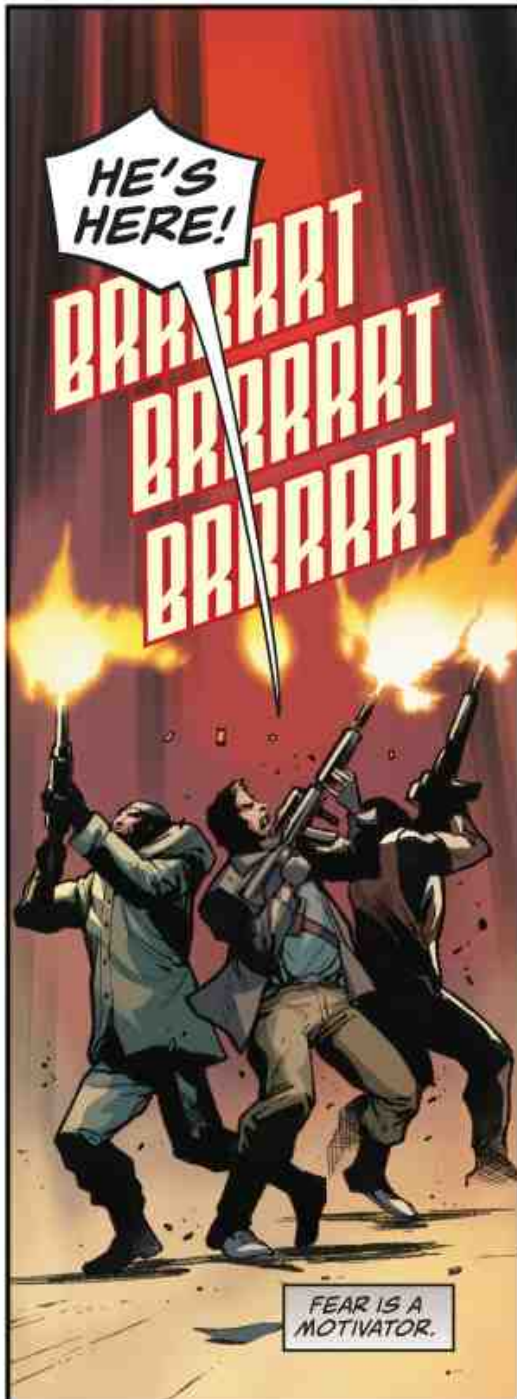
YOU ARE SPECIAL. YOU  
HAVE MORAL AUTHORITY.  
YOU HAVE TO PROTECT  
THE TRUTH, AND EXPOSE  
THE LIES OF THE  
HIDDEN AGENDA.

"HE'S  
GAINING  
ON US!"











DC COMICS  
PROUDLY PRESENTS

**I AM  
BATMAN**

## FEAR STATE

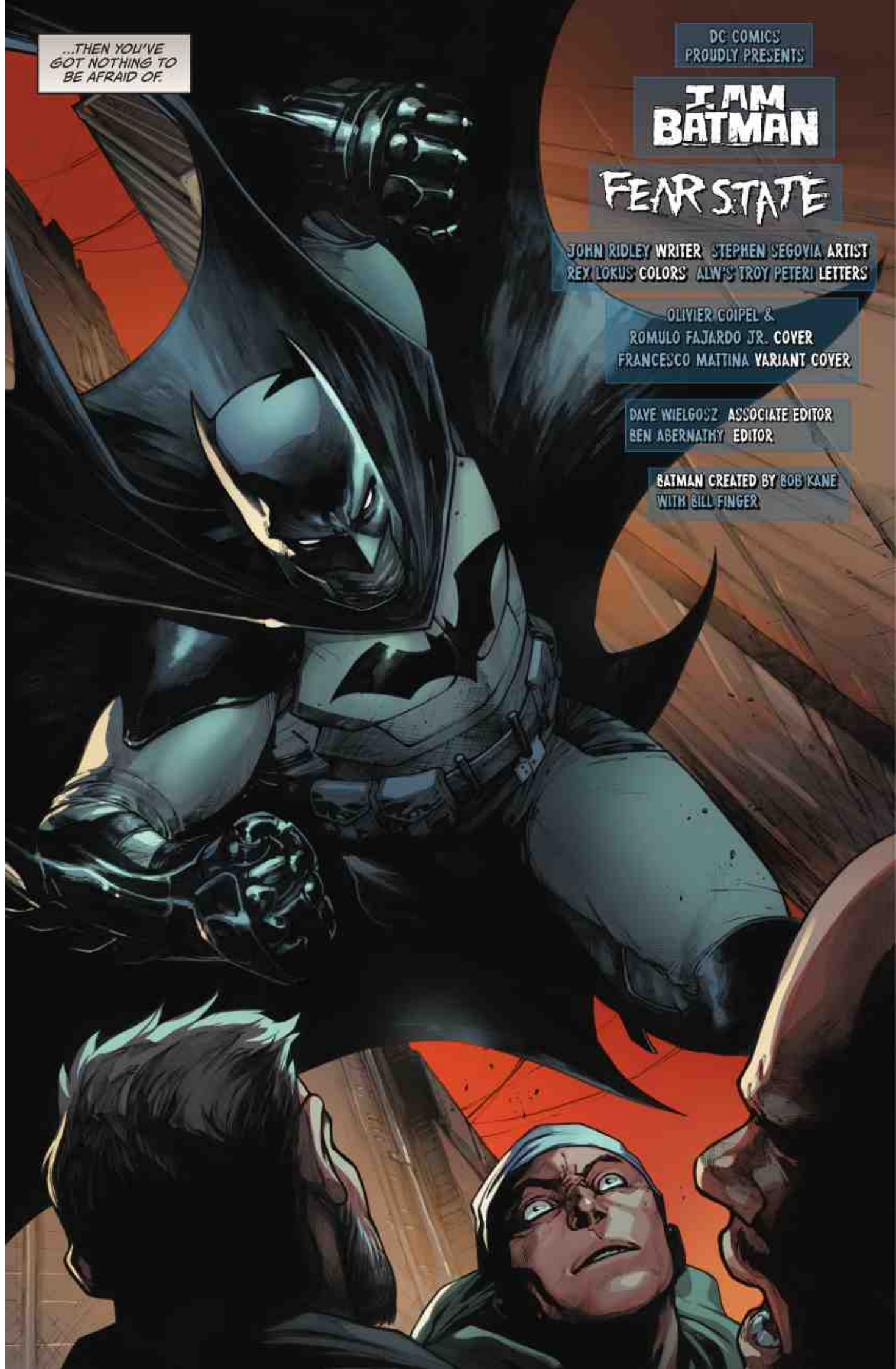
JOHN RIDLEY WRITER STEPHEN SEGOVIA ARTIST  
REX LOKUS COLORS ALWIS TROY PETERI LETTERS

OLIVIER GOPEL &  
ROMULO FAJARDO JR. COVER  
FRANCESCO MATTINA VARIANT COVER

DAVE WIELGOSZ ASSOCIATE EDITOR  
BEN ABERNATHY EDITOR

BATMAN CREATED BY BOB KANE  
WITH BILL FINGER

...THEN YOU'VE  
GOT NOTHING TO  
BE AFRAID OF.













A large comic book panel showing Batman in his tactical suit standing over a man lying on the ground. A knife is stuck in the man's back, and blood is visible. Batman is looking down at the man. The man has a beard and is wearing a blue jacket. The background is dark and industrial.

YOU OWN A WAREHOUSE THAT WAS BLOWN UP.

I DON'T KNOW NOTHING ABOUT IT.

YOU DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THE SIX BODIES INSIDE...

...ALREADY DEAD...

...STAGED TO LOOK LIKE AN ACCIDENT.

A close-up of a man's face, looking angry and shouting. He has a beard and is wearing a blue jacket. His mouth is wide open, showing his teeth.

TOLD YOU: @#&% OFF--

A close-up of a man's face, looking in pain or agony. He is screaming with his mouth wide open. There is blood on his face.

...AHHHH...!

A close-up of a hand holding a knife, with blood on the blade. The hand is wearing a blue glove.

...RRRRUUUUHHH...

A man sitting on the ground, looking up at Batman. He is wearing a blue jacket and has a beard. He is holding a knife in his hand.

LOOK...I OWNED THAT WAREHOUSE, BUT SOMEBODY SHOWED UP, SACK FULL OF CASH, WANTED TO LEASE IT NO QUESTIONS ASKED.

I DIDN'T ASK ANY.

A close-up of Batman's face, looking down at the man. He is wearing his mask and has a serious expression.

THAT'S HOW YOU DO BUSINESS?

I CAN'T GO TO JAIL FOR WHAT I DON'T KNOW.









# GOTHAM POLICE DETENTION.

MORRIS...  
I'M DETECTIVE  
WHITAKER. THIS IS  
DETECTIVE CHUBB.  
WE'VE BEEN  
ASSIGNED TO YOUR  
CASE.

CAN I SIT  
DOWN?

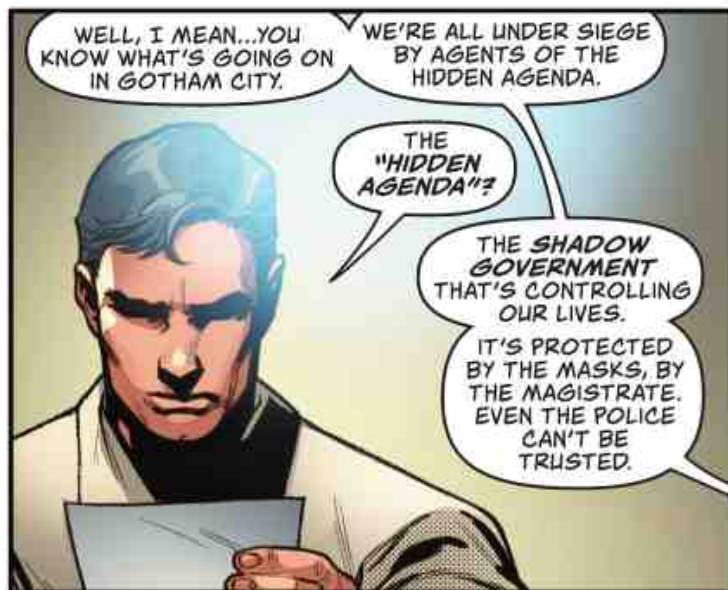
...YEAH...



MORRIS, YOU UNDERSTAND,  
YOU DON'T HAVE TO TALK TO  
US WITHOUT A LAWYER  
PRESENT.

I'M NOT  
AFRAID. I  
DIDN'T DO  
ANYTHING  
WRONG.

OKAY. DO  
YOU WANT TO  
TELL US WHAT  
HAPPENED?



WELL, I MEAN...YOU  
KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON  
IN GOTHAM CITY.

WE'RE ALL UNDER SIEGE  
BY AGENTS OF THE  
HIDDEN AGENDA.

THE  
"HIDDEN  
AGENDA"?

THE **SHADOW  
GOVERNMENT**  
THAT'S CONTROLLING  
OUR LIVES.

IT'S PROTECTED  
BY THE MASKS, BY  
THE MAGISTRATE.  
EVEN THE POLICE  
CAN'T BE  
TRUSTED.



WHAT DO YOU  
MEAN, WE CAN'T  
BE--

HOLD ON,  
CHUBB.

MORRIS,  
TELL US WHAT  
HAPPENED.

WELL, I  
WAS ON  
PATROL.

I'M A  
MEMBER  
OF THE  
MORAL  
AUTHORITY.

WE'VE  
SWORN TO  
DEFEND THE  
CITY FROM  
AGENTS OF  
THE HIDDEN  
AGENDA.



SURE. YOU'RE  
JUST TRYING  
TO **PROTECT**  
GOTHAM.

YEAH.  
AND I SAW  
THIS MASK.  
HE WAS  
ALREADY HURT,  
RUNNING.  
SCARED.

MASKS  
ARE ILLEGAL  
IN GOTHAM,  
SO I...







...SEER TOLD  
US THAT SPECIAL  
PEOPLE PROTECT  
GOTHAM. I'M  
SPECIAL.

...RIGHT...?



MORRIS...WE'RE  
GOING TO CONTACT  
YOUR PARENTS, LET  
THEM KNOW WHERE  
YOU ARE AND THAT  
YOU'RE ALL RIGHT.



I'D ADVISE  
YOU NOT TO SAY  
ANYTHING ELSE  
UNTIL YOU'VE  
SPOKEN WITH A  
LAWYER.

"THIS IS ALL A  
FREAKIN' MESS."











ARKADINE KIDNAPS AND KILLS SOME ANARCHISTS, SETS THEM UP AS INSTIGATORS OF AN ANTI-POLICE RIOT.

THEN SEER ESCALATES THE VIOLENCE BETWEEN CITIZENS, MASKS, AND THE POLICE.

ANARKY GETTING SHOT IN THE STREET... HE'S JUST THE LATEST VIC, BUT NOT THE LAST.

JACE, HAVE YOU CONSIDERED...

...IF ANARKY CAN GET HIMSELF KILLED... SO CAN YOU...



...YEAH...

AND I'VE ALSO CONSIDERED WHAT HAPPENS IF I DO NOTHING TO STOP THE CHAOS.



BUT WHO IS CAUSING THE CHAOS? WHY?

SAME AS EVER: FOLLOW THE MONEY.

WHOEVER'S PAYING ARKADINE, THEY'RE BEHIND ALL THIS.



THEN WE MAY KNOW SOON. THAT COURIER YOU BUSTED, HE FLIPPED ON ARKADINE.

ARKADINE'S BEEN ARRESTED, AND IS BEING EXTRADITED FROM VIETNAM.

**ALLEGED CRIMINAL ARKADINE EXTRADITED FROM VIETNAM TO U.S.**



HOW MANY MORE PEOPLE ARE GOING TO DIE BEFORE THE POLICE GET ARKADINE BACK TO GOTHAM?

AND WITH HIS MONEY? ARKADINE WON'T SPEND A NIGHT IN JAIL.

RIGHT NOW SEER IS DRIVING THINGS. I NEED TO STOP SEER.

IF SEER IS EVEN REAL, AND NOT JUST A CREATION OF SCARECROW.





VOL...THERE'S A KID, ABOUT THE SAME AGE AS ME WHEN I %@\$# UP, STARING DOWN A MURDER CHARGE BECAUSE OF THE FEAR SEER PUT IN HIS HEAD.

I'VE GOT NO DOUBT THE REST OF THE BATS ARE GOING AFTER SCARECROW.

I'M GOING AFTER SEER.



AND THE MAGISTRATE IS COMING AFTER YOU. CHATTER ABOUT A "SECOND BATMAN" IS POPPING UP ON POLICE TRANSMISSIONS.

TRUST ME, I KNOW HOW REAL IT IS HAVING MY OWN DAD'S TECH OUT THERE TRYING TO KILL ME.

BUT I'VE GOT WORK TO DO.



WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT SEER'S ARMY, "THE MORAL AUTHORITY?"

NOT MUCH. THE MORAL AUTHORITY IS JUST A LOOSE AFFILIATION OF DIFFERENT ARMED GROUPS. THE YOUNG SHOOTER WAS A MEMBER OF ONE OF THEM.

BEYOND THAT... SEER'S A DIGITAL GHOST. I CAN'T EVEN BEGIN TO FIND A WAY INTO SEER'S NETWORK.



WHAT ABOUT THE MORAL AUTHORITY? CAN YOU HACK ONE OF THEIR MESSAGE BOARDS, SEND A DM FROM SEER?

SAYING WHAT?

THAT SEER WANTS A MEETING WITH THEM.

THAT'D BE ABOUT THE BEST I COULD DO.



BUT WHEN SEER DOESN'T SHOW UP...?





"I'LL BE THERE TO EXPLAIN THINGS TO THEM."

I APPRECIATE YOU TAKING THE TIME TO MEET, MRS. FOX.

OF COURSE. ANYTHING FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT. AND IT'S TANYA.

WELL, I'M HERE ON OFFICIAL BUSINESS, SO FOR ME IT'S MRS. FOX.



I'M GUESSING YOU'VE BEEN FOLLOWING THE NEWS, AND THE MURDER OF THE VIGILANTE KNOWN AS ANARKY.

AS I UNDERSTAND THE CIRCUMSTANCES, IT'S NOT MURDER. IT'S JUSTIFIABLE HOMICIDE.



WHAT IT IS: A YOUNG MAN COMMITS VIOLENCE BECAUSE THIS CITY IS DIALED UP SO HIGH ON PARANOIA PEOPLE CAN'T THINK.

AND THAT YOUNG MAN IS FACING MURDER CHARGES WITH NOTHING BETTER THAN AN OVERWORKED PD AT HIS SIDE.



I'M SURE HIS FAMILY WILL RAISE SOME MONEY.

YEAH. THEIR FUND US PAGE HAS ALL OF \$806 IN DONATIONS. THAT PAYS FOR A GOOD LAWYER'S LUNCH.



UNLESS THAT LAWYER IS SO RICH TO BEGIN WITH SHE DOESN'T NEED THE MONEY.

YOU WANT ME TO DEFEND THE SHOOTER?





YOU AND YOUR HUSBAND HAVE MADE IT VERY CLEAR HOW YOU FEEL ABOUT MASKS.

YOUR HUSBAND'S PUT HIS ENTIRE COMPANY BEHIND **THE MAGISTRATE**.

IT'S EASY TO HAVE A BELIEF. IT'S ANOTHER THING TO MAKE THOSE BELIEFS FUNCTION IN THE REAL WORLD.

CONSIDER THIS AN INVITATION.



NONE OF THIS IS MY CONCERN.

BENDING THE LAW WAS YOUR CONCERN WHEN YOU HANDED ME A COURT ORDER THAT PROTECTED YOUR SON.

DO YOU UNDERSTAND HOW SERIOUS THIS IS?

...ANARKY WAS SHOT DEAD IN THE STREET BY A CHILD. THAT SHOULD CONCERN YOU AS MUCH AS WHAT HAPPENS WITH YOUR KIDS.



WHY DO YOU WANT MY HELP? YOU DON'T EXACTLY SUPPORT THE ANTI-MASK LAWS.

THIS ISN'T ABOUT THE LAW. I CAN ARREST PEOPLE ALL DAY LONG.

BUT IF I'M NOT MAKING SURE THE LEGAL SYSTEM WORKS FOR EVERYONE, THEN I'M NOT REALLY DOING MUCH OF ANYTHING.



MRS. FOX...TANYA... HOW IS IT RIGHT FOR THIS KID TO SPEND THE REST OF HIS LIFE IN JAIL...

...WHILE THE PEOPLE WHO USED AND MANIPULATED HIM ARE WALKING FREE?

YOU ASK A VERY COMPLICATED QUESTION.



YEAH, WELL...I'VE GOT A LOT OF EXPERIENCE WITH COMPLICATED QUESTIONS.





WHERE  
THE HELL  
IS SEER?

I DON'T  
KNOW. I GOT  
A MESSAGE  
TELLING ME  
TO MEET UP  
HERE.



GOT  
THE SAME  
MESSAGE.

ME  
TOO.

TOLD  
ME TO BE  
HERE.

SEER SAID,  
"TONIGHT'S  
THE NIGHT."



I DON'T  
LIKE THIS.  
FEELS LIKE  
WE'RE  
GETTING  
SET UP.

SET  
UP FOR  
WHAT?



VRRRRM  
M  
M  
M





















DO I  
LOOK LIKE THE  
BATMAN?



WHO THE  
\$@%# ARE  
YOU?

I'M THE GUY  
WHO'LL SNAP YOUR  
NECK, AND DRAG  
YOUR CARCASS  
FROM ONE SIDE  
OF GOTHAM TO  
THE OTHER.

WHAT'S THAT  
DO FOR YOU?



I DON'T KNOW  
SEER. NOBODY  
DOES.

BUT SEER IS  
EVERYWHERE. AND  
THEY ARE GONNA  
COME LOOKING  
FOR YOU.



LET 'EM.  
SAVES ME THE  
EFFORT.

YOU THINK YOU'RE  
TOUGH? MAYBE  
THE REAL BATMAN  
COULD'VE  
HANDLED SEER.  
NOT YOU.

SURE.  
BUT JUST  
SO WE'RE  
CLEAR...

...I AM  
BATMAN.

WHAT DOES IT  
MEAN TO BE  
HEROIC?





BEING HEROIC  
MEANS DOING WHAT  
OTHERS WILL NOT,  
NO MATTER THE  
CIRCUMSTANCES.

MORRIS  
CAULFIELD IS  
A HERO. HE  
LIBERATED US  
FROM THE  
OPPRESSOR  
KNOWN AS  
ANARKY.

NOW THE  
AGENTS OF THE  
HIDDEN AGENDA  
WANT TO  
PERSECUTE  
MORRIS.

MORRIS IS  
SPECIAL. SPECIAL  
PEOPLE MUST BE  
PROTECTED. YOU  
MUST PROTECT  
MORRIS...

...AND YOU  
MUST DO  
SOMETHING  
ABOUT  
BATMAN.

YOU HEARD  
SEER. WE GOT  
%\*#@# TO DO.

**NEXT: ALL THE KING'S MEN**



JEPH LOEB • TIM SALE



# BATMAN

THE

## LONG HALLOWEEN

SPECIAL



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